

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-37 and 40 are presently active in this case, Claim 33 having been amended and Claims 38 and 39 canceled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 33-37 and 39-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,111,798). Claims 21-32 were allowed and Claim 38 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 21-32 and the indication that Claim 38 includes allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and in order to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Claim 33 has been amended to include the features stated in Claim 38, and Claims 38 and 39 have been canceled.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment, and since no further issues are outstanding, Claims 21-37 and 40 are believed to be in condition for formal allowance, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

EHK\la

I:\ATTY\EHK\25\s\250755\250755US-AM.05-13-06.DOC